

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

TOPIC 1. Army Units on the Glaserwald Troop Training Grounds2. Border Guard Units in and around Prasily

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

637975

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 28 July 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED

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1. After 16 May 1954, about 500 Czech soldiers were observed in the area of the VVT Glaserwald (N 50/Q 17). The soldiers, some of whom lived in tents, bivouacked in and around the town of Novy Hurka (Neu Hurkenthal, N 50/Q 07). This area had been unoccupied from November 1953 until early May 1954. The troops held firing practices at the firing range in the Vysoke Lavky (Hohenstegen, N 50/Q 71) area near Hill 872. The dispensary of the VVT was located in the town of Glaserwald. After mid-May 1954, infantrymen, artillerymen, soldiers of tank units, and motor transport troops were observed in the training area. The units were allegedly rotated to the training grounds from the stations of Volary (N 49/Q 55), Klatovy (N 50/L 00) and Rejstejn (N 50/Q 27). Source emphasized that no border guard troops were in the training area, especially in the towns of Novy Hurka and Hurka.¹
2. Prior to 29 May 1954, about 500 border guard troops were quartered in hutments and houses in Prasily (Stubenbach, N 50/Q 17), which was practically uninhabited. Units subordinate to the headquarters in Prasily included PS units stationed at Obersteindlberg (N 50/Q 17), Gsenget (N 50/Q 17), on Lacka Lake and at the foot of Kittagsberg (hill). The ranking officer in Prasily was Senior Lieutenant Kantor (fnu), whose deputy was Lieutenant Petras (fnu). Other officers stationed at Prasily were Senior Lieutenant Flesmit (fnu), Lieutenant Dalecky (fnu), and Lieutenant Luka (fnu). PS soldiers said that the troops stationed at Prasily reinforced the guards on the border whenever required. The units in Prasily also provided small detachments for repair work on the obstacles along the border.² The PS soldiers said that in this year, the term of active service would allegedly be extended by seven months and, in October, no soldiers would be discharged on the completion of a two years' term of active service. In Czechoslovakia individuals subject to the draft were inducted on 1 April, 1 July, 1 October and 1 November of every year.³

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Comment. For some years this VVT has been occupied by the 2d Inf Div from May to September or October. It was only in April 1953 that PS

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troops also practiced there.

2.  Comment. The 3d Bn of the 7th PS Brig is stationed at Prasily. The reserve company is stationed at Prasily, while the 12th through 15th Cos are committed along the border. It is believed that the number of 500 PS troops allegedly stationed at Prasily is greatly overestimated.

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3.  Comment. The definite settlement of the term of active service is still undetermined. The statements made relative to this question are at variance with each other. The term of active service for PS soldiers who had served two years by July 1953 was extended until January 1954. The recruits inducted in the fall of 1953 were assigned border guard missions. It is undetermined if this measure was taken with a view to bringing about a uniform date of induction in the fall of every year.

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